

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the title at page 1, spanning lines 2 and 3 with the following rewritten version:

METHOD FOR INSTALLING REFRIGERATION DEVICE, AND
REFRIGERATION DEVICE, FREEZING APPARATUS INSTALLATION METHOD
AND FREEZING APPARATUS

Please add the following *new* paragraph on page 1, between lines 3 and 4:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This U.S. National Stage application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) to Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-361827 filed in Japan on October 22, 2003, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 33 (spanning pages 1 and 2) with the following rewritten version:

In order to overcome these drawbacks, an air conditioning device is proposed whereby the non-condensable gas retained in the refrigerant connection pipe after device installation, piping, and wiring is removed by adsorption by connecting a gas separation device filled with an adsorbent agent to the refrigerant circuit, and recirculating the refrigerant. Evacuation using a vacuum pump can thereby be omitted, and implementation of the air conditioning device can be simplified (see patent document 1 Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 5-69571, for example). However, since a large quantity of the adsorbent agent must be used in order to adsorb all of the non-condensable gas included in the refrigerant in this air conditioning device, the device as a whole is enlarged, and is difficult to actually mount in a refrigeration device.

Please replace the paragraphs beginning at page 2, line 7 with the following rewritten versions:

An air conditioning device is also proposed in which a fixture having a separation membrane is connected to the refrigerant circuit, refrigerant sealed into the heat source unit in advance is caused to fill the entire refrigerant circuit, and the non-condensable gas trapped in the refrigerant connection pipe after device installation, piping, and wiring is mixed with the refrigerant, after which the gas mixture of the refrigerant and the non-condensable gas is fed to the separation membrane without increasing the pressure thereof, and the non-condensable gas is separated and removed from the refrigerant. Evacuation using a vacuum pump can thereby be omitted, and implementation of the air conditioning device can be simplified (see patent document 2 Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 10-213363, for example). However, this air conditioning device has drawbacks in that the separation efficiency of the non-condensable gas in the separation membrane is low because it is impossible to increase the pressure difference between the primary side (specifically, the inside of the refrigerant circuit) of the separation membrane and the secondary side (specifically, the outside of the refrigerant circuit).

~~<Patent Document 1>~~

~~JP-A No. 5-69571~~

~~<Patent Document 2>~~

~~JP-A No. 10-213363~~

Please replace the heading at page 2, line 24, with the following rewritten version:

~~SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION~~ DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

Please delete the following heading beginning at page 9, line 16:

~~DESCRIPTION OF THE REFERENCE SYMBOLS~~

Please delete the following paragraphs beginning at page 9, line 17:

~~1-801; 1001, 1101; 1501-1801; 2001, 2101; 2501-2801; 3001-3101: air conditioning device (refrigeration device)~~
~~2-801; 1002, 1102; 1502-1802; 2002, 2102; 2502-2802; 3002-3102: heat source unit~~
~~5, 3005: utilization unit~~
~~6, 3006: liquid refrigerant connection pipe~~
~~7, 3007: gas refrigerant connection pipe~~
~~10, 3010, 3110: refrigerant circuit~~
~~11, 3011, 3111: liquid side refrigerant circuit~~
~~21: compressor~~
~~23: heat source side heat exchanger~~
~~25: main receiver (receiver)~~
~~32, 332, 832: cooler~~
~~33: secondary receiver (gas-liquid separator)~~
~~34, 1034, 2034, 2134: separation membrane device~~
~~34b, 1034b, 2063b, 2064b: separation membrane~~
~~51 utilization side heat exchanger~~

Please replace the heading at page 9, line 33, with the following rewritten version:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

Please replace the heading at page 51, line 1, with the following rewritten version:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: CLAIMS